



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Application No.:	10/089,961	Art Unit:	1625
Filed:	April 5, 2002	Examiner:	R. Covington
1 st Inventor:	O. Kurasawa	Allowed:	
For:	Urea Compounds, Process for Producing the Same and Use Thereof	Batch:	
Atty. Dkt. No.	2653 USOP	Paper No.:	11

Election of Claims

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed June 3, 2003 (Paper No. 10), Applicants make the following statements. The Examiner has classified the various claims of the present application into the following Groups:

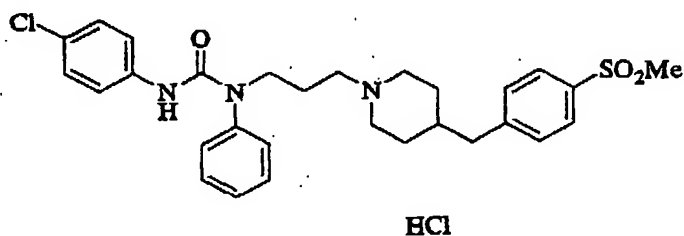
- Group I (claims 1—18) directed to compounds;
- Group II (claims 19-27) directed to compositions;
- Group III (claims 28-32) directed to uses; and
- Group IV (claims 33 and 34) directed to methods of manufacturing

The Examiner has also requested a species election.

In response, Applicants elect to prosecute the claims of Group I with traverse. Applicants submit that the claims of Groups I and IV are sufficiently related so as not to unduly burden the Examiner in making a search, since Group I claims are directed to compounds, and Group IV claims are directed methods for making those same compounds. In addition, Applicants assert that Groups I and II are sufficiently related since Group I claims are directed to compounds, and Group II claims are directed to pharmaceutical compositions of those same compounds. Therefore, Applicants submit that the claims of Groups I, II and IV can be prosecuted together without creating an undue burden on the Examiner.

The Applicants also wish to point out that for the compound claims in Group I, a fixed backbone which is fifteen atoms long is recited in Formula I. Variables (R^1 - R^4 , n and p) are only located on the periphery of this fixed backbone. Due to the high degree of certainty of the backbone of the structure of Formula I, and the fact that the only variables are at the periphery of the structure, Applicants do not believe that the compounds represented by Formula I are so unrelated and diverse that search would be unduly burdensome on the Examiner. Therefore, further restriction of Group I is unnecessary.

As to the species election, Applicants elect the species of Example 72, (N'-(4-chlorophenyl)-N-(3-(4-(4-(4-methylsulfonyl)benzyl)-1-piperidiny)propyl)-N-phenylurea, found on page 73 of the application. This compound is the fourth species recited in claim 17. For the Examiner's convenience, the structure of this species is shown below.



No amendment of inventorship is necessitated by this election.

Early allowance of the claims is requested. Should the Examiner believe that a conference with Applicants' attorney would advance prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully invited to call Applicants' attorney at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 30, 2003

(847) 383-3391
(847) 383-3372

Elaine M. Ramesh
Elaine M. Ramesh, Ph.D., Reg. No. 43,032
Mark Chao, Ph.D., Reg. No. 37,293
Attorney for Applicants
Customer No. 23115

Takeda Pharmaceuticals North America, Inc.
Intellectual Property Department
Suite 500, 475 Half Day Road
Lincolnshire, IL 60069 USA